

Applications and Applicants to Washington's Public 4-Year Institutions

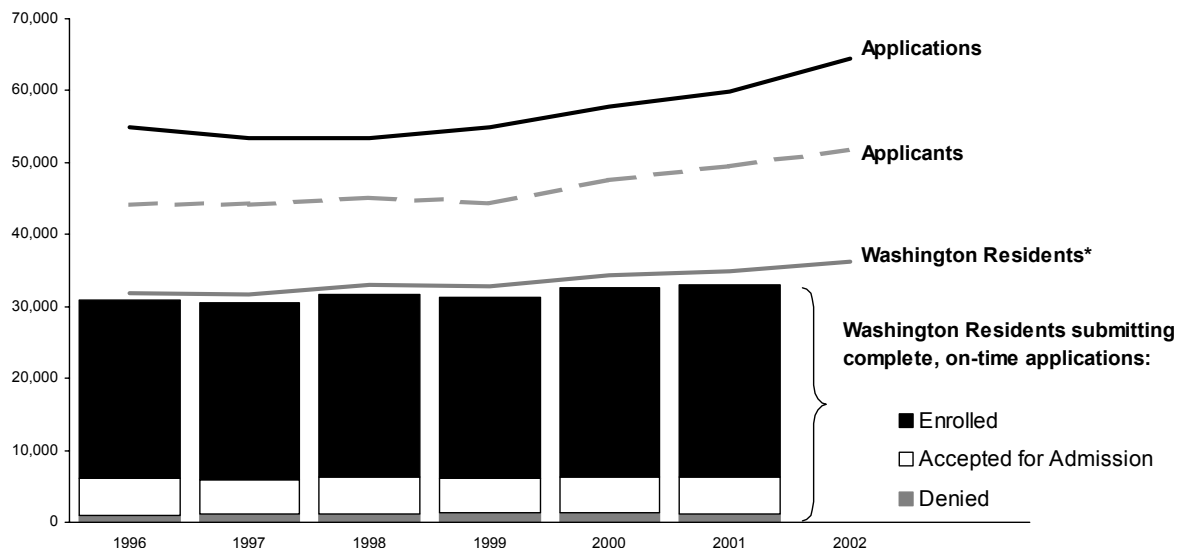
Applications/Applicants to Washington's Public 4-Year Institutions *(excluding Graduate and Professional School Applicants)*

Fall Term	Total Applications	Total Applicants	WA Resident Applicants	Residents Denied Admission*
1990	51,629	40,936	29,761	1,064
1991	53,717	43,725	31,282	1,339
1992	56,614	45,624	32,313	1,638
1993	58,668	47,578	32,189	1,264
1994	57,305	46,492	31,465	1,073
1995	56,027	45,385	31,883	952
1996	54,859	44,204	31,794	813
1997	53,456	44,164	31,730	916
1998	53,362	45,147	32,984	935
1999	54,870	44,468	32,827	995
2000	57,752	47,772	34,307	1,012
2001	59,863	49,515	34,843	975
2002	64,530	51,941	36,244	na

*Includes unknown grade point average, and Admission Index.

- ▶ Throughout the 1990s, Washington four-year institutions typically received about 55,000 applications annually, representing about 45,000 individuals (many people apply to more than one institution). Among the 45,000 annual individual applicants, about 31,000 were Washington state residents.
- ▶ Among the 31,000 annual Washington resident applicants, approximately 1,000 qualified applicants annually were denied admission by a public four-year institution and were not subsequently enrolled in any other part of the state's higher education system. These 1,000 Washington resident applicants, almost 3 percent of the total, have been termed the "waiting line."
- ▶ Since many students do not even apply for admission due to financial barriers or high admission standards, the "waiting line" is a partial measure of unmet need. Applicants to four-year institutions who ultimately enroll in the two-year system also may be considered "under-served."
- ▶ Despite pressures resulting from the "baby boom echo," the number of Washington resident applicants did not begin to rise until 2000. Based on demographic pressures, the increase was expected earlier, in 1996 or 1997.

Applicants Recent Rise Reflects "Baby Boom Echo"



*Includes unknown grade point average, and Admission Index.

SOURCE: OFM Application Match Study, A Perspective on Unmet Demand, 1990-2002.